

## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

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World Wide Web Home Page: <http://caldera.wr.usgs.gov/mdiggles/EC.html>  
Submit newsletter and address information to the Secretary

## Spring Picnic on Angel Island

This will be our annual Spring picnic. No speaker is planned for these events; this are just a way to end the lecture year and usher in a new field season. The price for the lunch we provide will be \$20.00 like last year and you need to mail it with your reservation slip to Lesley Ewing by Friday, June 18 so she can make the arrangements for supplies the weekend before the event. Costs include all food and beverages (beer, wine and pop). Come prepared for any kind of weather and wear layered clothes. Situated in San Francisco Bay, in close proximity to Tiburon and the south Marin coast, Angel Island may be foggy, windy, sunny, warm, cold or balmy, and it can be all of these over the course of the day.

Date: Saturday, June 26, 1999  
Place: Angel Island State Park (see map)  
Time: 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Cost: \$20 (\$25 if received after June 21st)

### GETTING TO ANGEL ISLAND ON SATURDAY, JUNE 26, 1999

You arrive at Angel Island by ferry. All ferry prices below are round trip, and include the park entry fee. In addition, **Bob Schmieder** will take his boat, the *Cordell Explorer*, and you are welcome to ride with him, or to take a commercial ferry. Bob will be able to take up to a dozen or perhaps more. For joining the boat party, call Bob at (925) 934-3735. We will start serving lunch at 12:30 PM. The picnic area is located on the lawn area inside Ayala Cove, where the ferry will drop you off. We will fly the Golden Gate Away Flag, so you easily can find your way to our tables.

**Bill Isherwood** will lead a kayaking party (weather permitting) over to Angel Island from the Schoonmaker Point Marina, Sausalito with the morning flood tide, returning to Sausalito on the afternoon ebb. Bill has one extra kayak that can be borrowed by the first experienced paddler to express interest. SeaTrek also rents kayaks in Sausalito. To coordinate paddling over, call Bill (925-423-5058 [w], or 925-254-0739 [h] before June 20. We recommend the kayaking only for experienced paddlers, in that tidal currents and standing waves in Raccoon Strait can sometimes be challenging.



**San Francisco Ferry to Angel Island** (Blue and Gold Fleet) (415) 773-1188. Ferry departs from Fisherman's Wharf, Pier 41. Trip is approximately 40 minutes. Leave SF: 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM, 2:00 PM. Leave Angel Is.: 10:05 AM, 12:50 PM, 3:00 PM, 4:40 PM. Adults \$11, round trip, age 12-18 \$10, age 5-11 \$6.00, age 5 and under free. Limited space for bicycles.

**Tiburon Ferry to Angel Island.** (415) 435-2131 (The best deal for ferry prices.)

Ferry departs 21 Main St., Tiburon. Leave, every hour on the hour from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Leave Angel Island 20 min. past the hour, from 10:20 AM to 5:20 PM. Adults \$6, children 6-11 \$4, age 5 and under free. \$1 for each bicycle.

**Oakland Ferry to Angel Island.** (510) 522-3300  
Jack London Sq., Oakland at the base of Clay Street and the Embarcadero (Validated parking at Washington and the Embarcadero). Leave Oakland 10:50 AM, Arrive Angel Island 11:50 AM ONLY. Leave Angel Island 4:45 PM, arrive Jack London Sq.



5:45 PM ONLY Adults \$13, ages 13-18 and 62 and up \$9, age 5-12 \$6, age 5 and under free. Limited space for bicycles.

**Alameda Ferry to Angel Island** (510) 522-3300

Main St. Ferry Term. (2990 Main Street. There is free parking adjacent to the dock) Leave 11:00 AM, arrive Angel Island 11:50 AM ONLY. Leave Angel Is.

4:45 PM, arrive Main St. Term. 5:35 PM ONLY. Adults \$13, age 13-18 and 62 and up \$9, age 6-12 \$6, 5 and under free. Limited space for bicycles.

**Vallejo Ferry to Angel Island** (707) 643-3779

Ferry Terminal, 495 Muir Island Way, Vallejo. Leaves 9:00 AM and arrives at Angel Island at 10:10 AM ONLY. Leaves Angel Island 3:30 PM and arrives in Vallejo at 4:25 PM ONLY. Adults \$14, ages 6 to 12 and 65 and over \$9.50; tickets sold only at the ticket office, not on the ferry.

**The Cordell Explorer:** Berkeley Marina to Angel Island. (925) 934-3735

Departs Dock L at Berkeley Marina, located at end of University Ave., Berkeley. Leave: 8:30 AM, arrive Angel Island 9:50 AM. Leave Angel Island 6:00 PM, arrive Berkeley Marina 7:00 PM. No charge. Limited space for bicycles. The Cordell Explorer will be the advance landing craft for out Angel Island adventure. Please contact Bob or Martha to let them know you would like to join them and please be on time. They must leave the dock promptly at 8:30 or we will not be able to stack out the best picnic spot. If you arrive late to the Berkeley Marina and the Cordell Explorer has left without you, drive to Alameda or Jack London Square and catch the commercial ferry.

### **WHAT TO DO ON ANGEL ISLAND BEFORE AND AFTER THE EXPLORERS CLUB LUNCH (12:30 TO 2:30.)**

Open-air tram tours of Angel Island are available, at 11:15, 12:30, 2:00, and 3:15 PM \$10 for adults, \$9 for seniors ages 62 and up, \$7 for children age 6-12, and free under 6. This tour is highly recommended for its postcard views of the island, the visit to Fort McDowell, Camp Reynolds, and the "Ellis Island of the West."

You may bring your own bike on the ferries, or you may rent one on the island. Mountain bike rental is \$10/hr, \$25/day. Tandem bikes rent for \$20/hr, or \$45/day. Junior bikes and child trailers are also available. All bike rental prices include a helmet. The Cove Café on the Island provides sandwiches, soup, salad, coffee and ice cream, all at moderate prices in case you decide to stay late. For more information on Angel Island, please call (415) 435-1915, for general information recorded by the park rangers, or (415) 897-0715, for recorded concession information.

### **MAY PENINSULA MEETING**

Most of us started with a delightful party at the home of **Dan and Rusty Liebowitz**. The weather was balmy and Dan had enlisted the help of his grandchildren to run

the trains. It was great fun to watch the trains and to see the care and respect with which his grandchildren handled the engines and cars.

**Dr. Liebowitz (MN 66)** added to the evening by sharing the story of his most recent book (he is still looking for a publisher) on the rescue of Emil Pasha. Dan started his talk by blowing the kudu horn. Early explorers used this type of horn to announce that they were coming into a village and that they were not slave traders. This would assure them safe entry into the village and prevent everyone from fleeing unnecessarily. Of course, the slave traders eventually learned of the “alert” and the kudu horn lost its effectiveness. It is a challenge to play and many people, after the talk, had a contest to see who could evoke the most notes.

Much of Dan’s research came from the journals of the men on the rescue mission, but the full story started before the rescue, with the histories of the main characters – Emil Pasha and Henry Stanley. The pasts of these two men were eerily similar. Emil Pasha began life as a German Lutheran named Eduard Schnitzer. He later changed his name and converted to Islam. He was a gifted linguist and an expert in many fields. As a physi-

cian, he served under Gen. Charles Gordon in Sudan and in 1878 he succeeded Gordon as governor of Equatoria, the southernmost province of the Egyptian Sudan. In 1885 Gen. Gordon was killed during a Mahdist uprising and at the same time, Emil Pasha was cut off from the outside world. By the time of the uprising he had achieved an almost mythical status and when he sent a message to the Royal Geographic Society asking for guns, it was decided that a rescue party should be formed to get him safely out of Equatoria.

Like Emil Pasha, Henry Stanley had changed his name and remade much of his life before his famous encounter with Livingstone. Stanley was born in Denbigh, North Wales, the illegitimate son of John Rowlands and Elisabeth Parry and he grew up in a workhouse. As a young man he signed onto a freighter bound for the U.S. and changed his name to that of a wealthy planter whom he met in New Orleans.

After Livingstone’s death in 1873, Stanley was eager to follow in his footsteps and continue exploration of the African continent. When asked to rescue Emil Pasha, he used this as a chance also to navigate the Congo. Stanley believed that Emil Pasha would be waiting at Lake Tanganyika and rather than travel 800 miles north from his base in East Africa, the rescue mission traveled around the Cape of Good Hope and up the Congo to further his exploration of this area. This circuitous route to Emil Pasha led the rescuers (who had each paid 1,000 pounds to join the expedition) through areas of desert, regions inhabited by cannibals and along slave trade routes. (The conditions of many of the native workers in equatorial Africa were chronicled in Joseph Conrad’s *Heart of Darkness*.) Many of Stanley’s crew became sick and suffered from malaria and starvation. The trip was very arduous and by the time they successfully reached Lake Tanganyika and Emil Pasha they had lost most of their supplies and weapons and were near death.

Stanley and Emil Pasha were immediately imprisoned by the locals and were released just before Islamic fundamentalists arrived. The return trip to Zanzibar was the more direct route, due south, but even this was not without its perils. At one point they were completely outnumbered and about to face battle when Stanley pulled out a Maxim gun (an early machine gun) and the attacking troops dispersed.

Emil Pasha was delivered safely to the German protectorate in Zanzibar and Stanley had great hopes of returning to England with Emil Pasha and going on a lecture circuit to discuss the daring rescue. Unfortunately, Emil Pasha was almost blind by the time they reached Zanzibar and he fractured his skull when he



accidentally walked through a second story French window. The fall and the fracture caused a dramatic change in Emil Pasha's character and Stanley returned to England without him and wrote *In Darkest Africa*. Emil Pasha stayed in Africa, became an avid anti-slaver, and was murdered by slave traders near Lake Tanganyika.

We have provided a list of places you can try. The Saturday event will be at the Northern Queen (800-226-3090).

## LABOR SHORTAGE COULD HALT NEWSLETTERS

We really need a Secretary – the Diggles/Ewing team will be retiring from the newsletter business with the next letter. We have managed to put out a newsletter over the past year by a combined effort to write, print, and mail the newsletters, but will not be able to continue this for future years. If you want to volunteer to be secretary or find out more about the position, call Bill, Mike or Lesley.

## EARL EXPLORERS NEWS

We have a really nice story as a follow-up to Denise Nulph's and Elaine Hansen's stories of their fine teaching efforts. It turns out that our Northern California Chapter newsletters, that go to addresses in many foreign countries, have been going to **Brian Hanson, MI-84**, in Saudi Arabia for some time now. Well, Brian finally moved back to the U.S. and it took a while for the last one or two newsletters to catch up with him. When they did, he responded to the Earl articles with \$100 checks to each of the teachers (doubling my amount for The Read In). We thank Brian for his support and, after 33 years with Celanese Corp., congratulate him on his retirement on Lake Travis (near Austin). —Mike Diggles.

<b>Lodging Information:</b> Prices subject to change without notice. R- Restaurant C- Continental H- House A- Available L- Limited U- Wheelchair Usable V- Visa M- Mastercard A- American Express D- Discover ALL- All Major Cards All area codes are 530 unless otherwise noted	
<b>Bed &amp; Breakfast Inns</b>	
Deer Creek Inn * 116 Nevada St., Nevada City * 265-0363 / 800-655-0363	
Downey House * 517 W. Broad St., Nevada City * 265-2815 / 800-258-2815	
Emma Nevada House * 528 E. Broad St., Nevada City * 265-4415 / 800-916-EMMA	
Flume's End * 317 S. Pine St., Nevada City * 265-9665 / 800-991-8118	
Golden Ore * 448 S. Auburn St., Grass Valley * 272-6872	
Grandmere's Inn * 449 Broad St., Nevada City * 265-4660	
The Kendall House * 534 Spring St., Nevada City * 265-0405	
The Marsh Mansion * 254 Boulder St., Nevada City * 265-5709 / 800-874-7458	
Murphy's Inn * 318 Neal St., Grass Valley * 273-6873 / 800-895-2488	
The Parsonage * 427 Broad St., Nevada City * 265-9478	
The Peacock Inn * 439 So. Auburn, Grass Valley * 477-2179	
Plety Hill Cottages Inn * 523 Sacramento St., Nevada City * 265-2245 / 800-443-2245	
The Red Castle Inn * 109 Prospect St., Nevada City * 265-5135 / 800-761-4766	
Swan-Levin House * 328 S. Church St., Grass Valley * 272-1873 / Fax 272-5720	
The Two Room Inn * 431 Broad St., Nevada City * 800-874-7458 / 265-3618	
U.S. Hotel * 233B Broad St., Nevada City * 265-7999 / Fax 265-7990 / 800-525-4525	
For short notice accommodations: Historic Bed & Breakfast Inns of Grass Valley & Nevada City 477-6634 / 800-250-5808 Houses of Gold Bed & Breakfast Referral Service 265-5709 / 800-874-7458	
<b>Hotels / Motels / Resorts / Cottages</b>	
Alta Sierra Village Inn * 11858 Tammy Way, Grass Valley * 273-9102 / 800-992-5300	
Best Western Gold Country Inn * 11972 Sutton Way, Grass Valley * 273-1393 / 800-247-6590	
Backhorn Lodge & Buttes Resort * Hwy. 49, Sierra City * 862-1170 / 800-991-1170	
Coach & Four Motel * 628 So. Auburn, Grass Valley * 273-8009	
Golden Chain Resort & Motel * 13353 Hwy. 49, Grass Valley * 273-7279	
H & M Cottage * 152 Pearl St., Downsville * 671-0853 / 289-1000	
The Holbrook Hotel * 212 W. Main St., Grass Valley * 273-1353 / 800-933-7077	
Holiday Lodge * 1221 E. Main St., Grass Valley * 273-4406 / 800-742-7125	
Miner's Inn * 760 Zion St., Nevada City * 265-2253 / 800-977-8884	
The National Hotel * 211 Broad St., Nevada City * 265-4551 / Fax 265-2445	
Nevada Street Cottages * 690 Nevada St., Nevada City * 265-8071 / 800-255-8071	
Northern Queen Inn * 400 Railroad Ave., Nevada City * 265-5824 / 800-226-3090	
The Outside Inn * 575 Broad St., Nevada City * 265-2233 / Fax 265-2236	
Rollins Lakeside Inn Resort * 18145 Rollins View Dr., Chicago Park * 273-0729	
Sandra Dyer's Resort Motel * P.O. Box 406, Downsville * 289-3308 / 800-696-3308	
Stage Coach Motel * 405 So. Auburn, Grass Valley * 272-3701	

### Hotel information for Nevada City

Rates	No. of Rooms	Breakfast	Private Bath	Kitchenettes	Hot Tub / Spa	Pool	Fireplace/Woodstove	Telephone in Room	Television in Room	Smoking Designated Rooms	Pets Allowed	Children Welcome	Conference Facilities	Wheelchair Accessible	Credit Cards
90-145	4	*	*		*			A	A			L	*	VMA	
75-100	6	*	*									*		VM	
90-150	6	*	*		2		1	3	A			L		ALL	
80-140	6	*	*	1	2		1					L		VM	
65-105	6	*	3	1				A	*	L	L	L		VM	
100-165	6	*	*	1				A				L	L	VM	
98-200	5	*	*	1	*	2		1				L	L	* VMD	
125-200	6	*	*	*	*	*	A	A		L	L	*	*	ALL	
95-150	8	*	*	1			4	8	*			*		VMA	
70-135	6	*	*	1		*		3				L	L	VM	
70-95	4	*	*	*								L		VM	
80-150	9	*	*	*	*		1	7	*			*		VMA	
70-150	7	*	*	*				A		A		L	*	VM	
75-95	4	*	*	1			1	A	1			L		* VMD	
100-150	2	C	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	L	*	ALL	
85-110	8	*	*	*			*	*				L		VMA	
49-150	14	*	*	2		A				*	*	*	*	* VMD	
60-90	84	C	*	6	*	*	*	*	*	L	*	*	*	ALL	
40-125	12	*	*	6	2		8	*	*	*	L	*	A	* VM	
40-95	19	C	*	*			*	*	*	L	*	*	*	* VMA	
48-88	21	C	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	* VMA	
125	H2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	* U	ALL
55-150	28	*	*	*	*	2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	* U	ALL
45-85	36	C	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	L	*	L	*	* ALL	
50-180	23	C	*	3			*	*	*	*	*	*	*	* U	VMA
68-113	42	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	* VMA	
70-110	4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	* ALL	
60-110	86	R	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	* VMA	
55-85	11	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	* VM	
70-175	9	*	*	*	*	2	A	*	*	*	*	*	*	* VMA	
59-145	14	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	* VMA	
35-65	16	C	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	* VMA	

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Gold Country (Nevada City) Weekend** Saturday, September 11th. We hope to get a speaker who can provide talk on the natural and human history of the Sierra Nevada. We want to have an additional gathering Friday night, the 10th. Saturday during the day can be spent at various historic sites such as the Empire Mine and the shops along the old-town streets. As hotel reservations are hard to get in Nevada City (that's also Constitution Day), we suggest you make them NOW.

## NEWS OF MEMBERS

**Dr. Robert Glaser (FN 92)** noted that he was glad to be at a meeting and spoke of his interest in primate painting (by primates, not of primates).

**William Britten Stitt, Jr.**, probably the newest member at the meeting, is a commercial diver who recently completed a single-handed sail to Hawaii and carried Explorers Club Fag #160 to Egypt. Welcome to the Northern California Chapter.

**Michael Diggles (MN 92)** has recently completed a tectonic and metallogenic map of N.E. Asia on CD-ROM. It is a U.S. Geological Survey publication done in

conjunction with a list of co-authors and cooperators from Mongolia, China, Russia, Korea, and Japan. Mike was its producer and one of its plethora of authors.

**Betsy Crowder (FN 94)** recently returned from climbing the Chilcutt Pass, floating downriver to Dawson and panning for gold. She did find some gold and is now planning a trip to Mt. Blanc (with her pannings?) and wants to know if anyone has recently taken advantage of hospitality of the Lansdowne Club. Contact her directly to share your personal experiences.

**Bob and Martha Schmieder** were sorry to have missed the past few meetings and were happy to be back. Bob's brother was killed in a flying accident this winter, and we all offered him condolences. Bob and Martha will be coming to the Angel Island party and have offered to take people on their boat (for more details see the Angel Island write-up).

**Eve Iversen (CO 86)** went to Death Valley with the American Donkey and Mule Association where she discovered that the wheels on the mule train for the Borax exhibit are too small. No one could answer why or when the original wheels had been removed. To see some wagon wheels that are intentionally small, there is a sculpture of a half scale wagon with four half sized mules at F.M. Smith Park in Oakland.

**Dan Cheatham (FN 89)** has finished an oral history of a survivor of the Bataan Death March. Next he is off to the Amazon River.

**Ellen S. Brush, Ph.D. MED-84** passed away on Saturday, May 1st at her home in New York City. Ellen was a two-term Director of The Explorers Club, editor of The Explorers Newsletter for several years and had served on numerous committees. She was among the first women to be admitted to The Explorers Club. In March she ended her last term as a Director of the Club and was awarded the President's Medal for Distinguished Service at this year's ECAD. Ellen was an expert on the pre-Columbian archaeology of Western Coastal Guerrero, Mexico where she had done extensive fieldwork. Ellen was also an active member of the Society of Woman Geographers and served as Chair of their New York Chapter several times. She also served on the Board of The American Institute of Archaeology until her resignation in April. She is survived by her husband, with her husband, Explorers Club President

Emeritus **Charles F. Brush, Ph.D.**; her daughter, **Karen A. Brush, Ph.D.** (board of directors; kbrush @ explorers.org), and her son **Charles F. Brush IV**.

We are sad to report that we have lost **Prof. Arthur L. Schawlow, Ph.D., FN-78** who was the J.G. Jackson - C.J. Wood Professor of Physics at Stanford University and one of the Chapter's Nobel Laureates, in physics (1981, lasers). He passed away April 28, 1999. Past research involved applying laser and other spectroscopic techniques to a wide range of problems in basic physics. In recent years these have included methods of simplifying complex atomic or molecular spectra by using a laser to label one chosen lower level, which is periodically depleted or oriented. Sensitive (non-laser) spectroscopy has been used to detect rare earth ions in single atomic layers and in metals. Recently investigated factors affecting tunability of semi-conductor diode lasers, and the uses of these lasers for spectroscopy.

**Çagan H. Sekercioglu, SM 99** has been accepted as a Student Member. He joined us for the February meeting on Antarctica. Çagan will be in Turkey for a little while and then is heading to Costa Rica for fieldwork. He is studying the birds of the rainforest.

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From: "R. Scott Winters"

<rwinters@sas.upenn.edu>

Mike, The Explorers Club website is following the E3 expedition to Everest. Check out the web-site for daily updates from the field and lots of photos. Just be patient, the site is undergoing redevelopment so a few bugs might still be lurking about. <http://www.explorers.org/news>

Talk to you soon.

- Scott

**R. Scott Winters**, Department of Biology, Ecology and Evolution Group, Computational Biology Group, University of Pennsylvania

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From: **Pat Scannon**

<SCANNON@xoma.com>

Dear Bill,

I want to let you know I have taken receipt of Explorers Club Flag 61 to accompany me on my next expedition to Palau in western Micronesia in search of missing American military aircraft from WWII. The expedition, consisting of **Chip and Pam Lambert** and myself, is scheduled for 8-21 June 1999. The



*Arthur L. Schawlow*

plan is to search for at least one B-24 (possibly with human remains of crew on board), one TBF Avenger (George Bush's wingman), one Corsair (belonging to the only American ace killed over Palau) and other targets, tie permitting. The search, both for land and underwater sites, will utilize aircraft (Cessna), a boat (equipped with GPS, magnetometer, underwater video and possibly side scanning sonar technologies), scuba diving and photography (video and still) for documentation of wreck sites found. If any remains are found, Graves Registration in Hawaii will be notified. The targets have been selected from a larger number possible, based on review of military and national archival records, interviews with American WWII veterans of the Palau air war, interviews with local Palauns and evidence accumulated during prior visits to Palau. I will keep our Northern California Chapter and World Headquarters informed about this expedition.

Best regards, Pat Scannon

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From: **Merle Greene Robertson FN-90**

<pari@sirius.com>

Hi Mike: I carried the [Explorers Club] Flag when we worked in Yucatan. We now have the largest and most important "dig" going on in Mesoamerica at Palenque - "Proyecto Grupo de Las Cruces, Palenque". This a joint project between our Institute — The Pre-Columbian Art Research Institute and INAH, Mexico, a cooperative project between two countries. Since president Zedillo of Mexico and Ma Teresa Franco, Director of INAH came to Palenque and announced to the world the great discoveries at Palenque, we have been in about every press worldwide. Do watch our WEBSITE. It will tell you a lot. It is <http://www.mesoweb.com/pari>

Dr. Merle Greene Robertson, Director of PARI and the Palenque Project. **Alfonso Morales C.** Principal Investigator in charge of the Palenque Project. If you would like our Newsletter let me know by e-mail: [pari@sirius.com](mailto:pari@sirius.com)

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From: **Morton Beebe** <mbeeb@pacbell.net>

Mike, We are abroad for the month of June to plan a repeat overland expedition through Russia later in the year to repeat a journey made in 1959. This Friday we are in Seattle for a wedding (not ours), please give our best to Dan and Rusty.

The Explorers Conference [on expedition funding] you mentioned in the [May] Newsletter has been rescheduled for November.

**Mort and Danielle**

From: **James Prosek** <jamepro@aol.com>

Mike, My book opening for my third book at The Explorer's Club NY was covered on the front page of the *NY Observer* paper issue April 26, 1999. It can be seen on <http://www.observer.com>.

—James

Here's an excerpt: —Mike

"I'm too overwhelmed and flattered and touched and on the verge of tears ...," said James Prosek at the Explorers Club on the evening of April 14, and he looked like he meant it. The tall, boyish 23-year-old writer and fish painter was being feted for his third book, *The Complete Angler*, a literary travelogue of an angling trip he took to England, patterned after Izaak Walton's 1653 philosophical fishing tract.

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**FROM THE CHAIRMAN**

*Golden GateAway 2000*

Hoping to continue with the grand tradition initiated by our previous Chapter Chairman, **Bob Schmieder**, (and made possible by the hard work of many volunteers, especially **Martha Schmieder**), I am forming an organizing/steering committee to develop a plan for a next biannual Golden GateAway — tentatively suggested for October 2000.

We will start with informal discussions at the Angel Island picnic. Topics will include:

Are we ready for this?

- Lessons learned from our last two GateAways.
- What activities should be included?
- Location/ format/ proposed speakers
- A critical path of activities necessary to make it happen
- The role for coordination with other organizations
- —Explorers Club, NY
- —Other Chapters of the EC
- Potential cosponsors/participants (e.g., Society of Women Geographers, American Polar Society, American Himalayan Foundation, American Alpine Club)
- Potential corporate sponsors (e.g., Mt. Travel/ Sobek, National Geographic, Discover Channel, Quokka)

Please consider becoming part of our steering committee — express your thoughts on how we can make our next event the best ever. Contact **Bill Isherwood** or **Lesley Ewing** to volunteer or give an opinion.

We are still searching for a new Chapter Secretary. This post consists of being the Keeper of the Chapter membership database (our most valuable resource), getting the newsletters produced (there is a lot of help

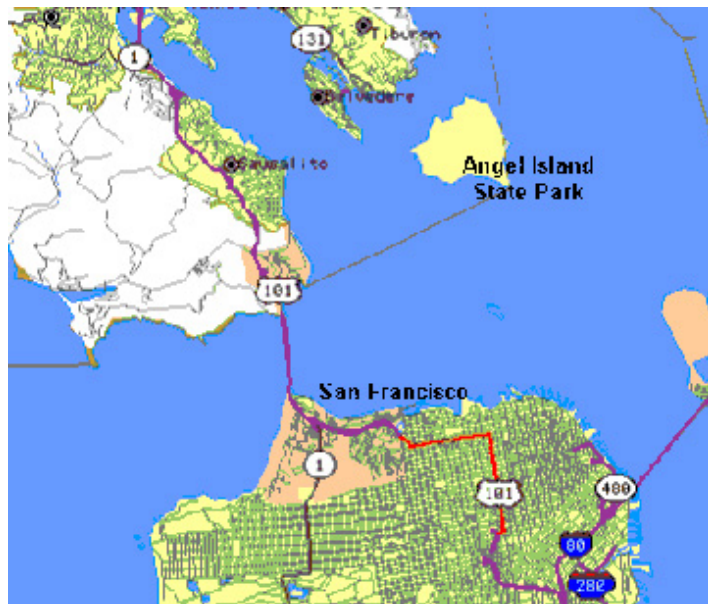
available), and getting out the mailing (again; there are helpers for this). Contact **Bill Isherwood**, **Mike Diggles**, or **Lesley Ewing** for more information

I would also like to see us form an active Membership Committee. We need to pay more attention to what do we need to do differently/better to attract and keep membership. We should also discuss how to identify and encourage new members, and how to help facilitate their member ship applications.

Thanks to our raffles, a tight rein from our treasurer, **Jerry Athearn**, and a generous donation from **Marjorie Fountain**, the Chapter is back on its financial feet. Although many consider the cost of our dinner meeting a significant deterrent to regular participation, the reality is that we operate on a very slim margin, to cover the cost of meal service (including the speaker's dinner and meeting room) plus the production and mailing of our newsletter. In essence, those who attend the dinner meetings subsidize the newsletter to our membership. We could potentially make the meeting costs slightly less if we were to charge a newsletter subscription fee, to separately pay for the newsletter mailing expenses. On the other hand, we have tried to avoid a separate "dues" to "belong" to our local Chapter.

We welcome your opinion on this matter. For example, should we ask for a "voluntary" subscription fee, in the order of \$15-25, to help defray the costs of producing and mailing our newsletter? Should be have a special 'younger member" dinner meeting discount? Are there other fund raising activities we should try, which might cover non-dinner related activities? The Angel Island picnic provide a forum for discussing this issue, as we socialize.

And... under the category of So You Thought You Had It Bad is this bit from *Bad Trips, A log of explorers who should have stayed in bed that day*, by John Tierney in the *New York Times Magazine* last month. 1521. Once he rounded the tip of South America, Ferdinand Magellan figured it would take four weeks to reach his goal in the Orient, the Molucca Islands. Two months later he was still only halfway across the Pacific Ocean. His crewmen were eating sawdust and leather from the yardarms, and rats were being auctioned to the highest bidder. After one too many days of landless horizons, Magellan heaved his maps into the sea. "With the pardon of the cartographers," he said disgustedly, "the Moluccas are not to be found at their appointed place."



Please return to:

**Lesley Carol Ewing, FN-93**

The Explorers Club, Northern California Chapter  
1679 Tacoma Ave.  
Berkeley, CA 94707-1826

Lesley's phone: (510) 527-7899 (h)

**MAIL BY Friday, June 18, 1999**

Please reserve spaces for the **Angel Island picnic** on Saturday, June 26, 1999.

\$20 (\$25 received after June 21st. There is no "at the door;" just bring a lunch and come anyhow).

Guest(s):